

REMARKS

In response to the Official Action of October 29, 2003, a new set of claims is being submitted. Further, a review of the entire file reveals that we had overlooked a dependent claim 25 that had been submitted on November 15, 2001, and that error has been carried through and has caused the confusion in the claim numbering.

In order to clarify, we are cancelling all claims. In the Amendment of August 14, 2003, claims 25 and 26 had renumbered to 26 and 27 by the Examiner and all the following claims had also been renumbered by the Examiner. Thus, the highest claim number then pending was claim 40, which was renumbered from claim 39 submitted on August 14, 2003. Therefore, by cancelling all prior claims, we are cancelling all prior claims in this case with the highest claim number previously in the case being claim 40. We have commenced the claims with number 41 and have carried the numbering thereafter consistently.

In other words, the Amendment of August 14, 2003 stated that claims 1-24 had been cancelled and new claims began to be added with claim number 25. The Examiner correctly identified that error and renumbered claims 25-39 as 26-40. Because there has been a continuing error in claim number, it is believed the highest pending current claim is claim 40, and therefore, a revised set of claims beginning with claim 41 is now being submitted.

With reference to the Amendment of August 14, 2003, as renumbered by the Examiner from claims 25-39 to 26-40, the following table shows the claims as originally submitted and as now being renumbered so that there should be no confusion that the identical subject matter is being claimed.


Revised number of claims in August 14, 2003 Amendment as revised by Examiner	Newly submitted claims
26	41
27	42
28	43
29	44
30	Cancelled previously
31	45
32	46
33	47
34	48
35	49
36	50
37	51
38	52
39	53
40	54

Since the Examiner held the recent Amendment was non-responsive, the Patent Office is authorized to charge our deposit account for an additional three month late fee, and a request for an extension of time seeking such activity is hereby requested.

It is believed this case should now be in condition for allowance and all claim numbering issues should have been clarified.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
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